

**Amendments to the Specification:**

Please amend the specification as follows:

At p. 6, line 28, please add the following paragraph:

“Fig. 4 is a sectional view similar to that of Fig. 3 but with the female and male guiding elements partially engaged.”

At p. 9, please replace the paragraph starting at line 15 with “The” and ending at line 22 with “assembly 10.” with the following paragraph:

“As illustrated in Fig. 4, the ~~The~~ guiding feature of the present invention allows precise alignment of the contact elements prior to their mechanically (and, accordingly, electrically) contacting them. This helps to prevent damages and allows for reliable electrical contact. Moreover, the fastening feature realized in combination with the guiding features assists in reducing the space needed resulting in an overall compact design of the connector assembly 10.”